

Frequently Asked Questions: MyMathLab™ and MathXL® for the Macintosh

Are MyMathLab and MathXL compatible with the Mac?

MyMathLab and MathXL are web-based applications that use many types of rich media to help students succeed in mathematics courses ranging from pre-algebra to calculus. Over 700,000 students used MyMathLab or MathXL in 2006.

The MathXL Player is one media component within MyMathLab and MathXL. The Player displays exercises provided by Pearson as well as custom exercises that instructors can create using the MathXL Exercise Builder. The MathXL Player also evaluates and scores student answers and provides feedback through sophisticated algorithms built into the software. By providing immediate feedback and tutorial help when it is needed, the MathXL Player provides significant educational benefits to students, as well as quick and reliable performance. To provide these benefits, the MathXL Player is built with ActiveX technology, which runs reliably on Windows through Internet Explorer 6 and later versions. Therefore, the Windows operating system with Internet Explorer is required to use the MathXL Player.

The other rich media in MyMathLab and MathXL include resources such as e-books, study guides, instructional videos, and animations. All of these instructional tools use browser plug-ins that are available for the Macintosh. In addition, TestGen quizzes and tests can be created by instructors and completed by students for immediate feedback and a score. A free version of the TestGen Plug-in is available for the Macintosh.

I use a Macintosh and would like to install the MathXL Player. What options make this possible?

The following options allow Macintosh users to install the MathXL Player:

- Macintosh users with the PowerPC processor in their computer can install Virtual PC to emulate the Windows environment on the Macintosh. Further information about Virtual PC can be found here:
<http://www.microsoft.com/mac/products/virtualpc/virtualpc.aspx?pid=virtualpc>
- Macintosh users with the Intel-based processor in their computer can utilize a free utility from Apple called BootCamp to install a licensed copy of Windows on their computer.

You can download BootCamp and receive additional installation and setup information by visiting this URL:

<http://www.apple.com/macosx/bootcamp/>

You can also see more information about Windows and pick the best version for you by visiting this URL:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/default.msp>